

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Austin Whittington House Inventory Number: S-295  
Address: 5314 Whittington Road North side of Whittington Road, between  
Landon Store and Green Roads Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Marion Zip Code: 21838 County: Somerset  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Kingston  
Property Owner: Swift Farms, Inc. Tax Account ID Number: 049132  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 137 Tax Map Number: 58  
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland Agency: Maryland Dept. of Budget and Management  
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company  
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell and Stacey Streett Date Prepared: 3/23/2005  
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no  
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

**Architectural Description**

Please refer to MIHP Form S-295 for 1987 survey information.

The parcel of land at 5314 Whittington Road, located along the north side of Whittington Road (also known as L.Q. Powell Road), between Landon Store Road and Green Road, contains the Austin Whittington House (S-295), constructed in 1911. The dwelling is comprised of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival architectural elements. The Austin Whittington House is a common house type within Somerset County. It is a two-story, asymmetrical, hipped-roofed building, with multiple projecting, cross-gable wings. Projecting, three-sided bay windows are situated below those gables on the façade and east elevation of the second story. A three-sided bay window is featured on the west half of the façade on the first story. The west elevation contains a two-story projecting wing below the cross gable. A lunette light is located in the front-facing, cross gable on the façade. A raised brick foundation supports the dwelling, and it is fully encapsulated by white, aluminum siding.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Andrew Lewis  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

4/7/05  
Date

Patricia Kuntz  
Reviewer, National Register Program

4/7/05  
Date

200500858

The façade is dominated by a wrap-around porch, which extends to part of the east elevation. The prior MIHP form for S-295 was completed in 1987 and it indicates that the southeastern and eastern portions of the porch were enclosed. However, at the time of the survey in August 2004, no portion of the front porch was enclosed. Pairs of Tuscan columns atop brick plinths support the porch roof. A white, wood balustrade connects the space between the porch supports. The porch roof contains a simple pediment, which is oriented above the main entrance and centered below the second-story, three-side, bay-window projection. The main entrance is reached by a flight of brick steps. The north elevation is covered on the first floor by an enclosed shed porch.

Replacement, double-hung, one-over-one, sash windows constitute all of the fenestration except for the lunettes. Slate shingles cap the complex roof. Fishscale shingles are featured on the main roof and rectangular shingles are on the pent and porch roofs. Two narrow, brick chimneys with corbelled caps punctuate the center portion of the hipped-roof line.

Ornamental plantings surround the foundation of the residence. An ornamental urn is located in the yard, south of the main entrance. A large, mature pine tree is located in the southwest portion of the front yard, along with an evergreen shrub, and a large, mature, deciduous tree is located on the east side of the front yard. The northern portion (back yard) of the property contains recently constructed agricultural buildings and an access driveway.

#### Significance

#### Introduction

Marion, located in Somerset County, Maryland, is situated approximately six miles north of Crisfield. Marion is a small crossroads community that was established in the middle of the nineteenth century with the construction of the earliest residences. The town developed gradually throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Buildings more than 50 years of age in the Marion vicinity are generally in fair to poor condition. Many of the buildings in the commercial corridor have been altered, most substantially. The busy, four-lane Crisfield Highway (Route 413) bisects Marion and intrudes substantially on the historic character of the town, most notably on the commercial area.

Residential areas radiate out from the commercial area. The residences located closest to the commercial area are generally located along side streets and are closely spaced. However, moving outward from the commercial area, the residences are located on large parcels of land, many of which are actively cultivated. Primary crops include soybeans and corn. Modern poultry farming enterprises are also present.

The earliest buildings in Marion date to the middle of the nineteenth century. The majority of the buildings more than 50 years of age date from the early years of the twentieth century. However, numerous mobile homes and residences constructed within the last 30 years are located in the area.

The topography of Marion is generally flat with substantial stands of trees and forests as well as fields.

#### History of Marion

Marion is located in what was once a thriving agricultural region. Consequently, it grew into one of the larger villages within Somerset County during the second half of the nineteenth century. John C. Horsey donated a portion of his land for the railroad right-of-way, and in exchange he was allowed to name the resulting town after his daughter Marion. The village served the needs of the surrounding agricultural community. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas shows two carpenter shops, two blacksmiths, and two wagon shops in the town.

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

A general store was located in Marion, and several churches were also established there. Approximately ten residences were located in Marion at this time. Later development was focused on areas south and east of the village.

Strawberries were one of the most important crops grown in Marion as well as other parts of Somerset County. An auction to establish the best possible market prices for strawberries was initiated in Marion in 1911. The auction was soon moved to the neighboring town of Princess Anne. Marion's strawberry crop was sent by rail car to urban markets, including Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. By the mid 1920s, many farmers had started to raise broiler chickens, and the long chicken houses became a common site in Marion and surrounding areas. Around the same time, soybeans became a popular crop among farmers. Depression-era government subsidies encouraged their cultivation, and the crop became even more widespread during World War II, when the need for soybean oil increased government incentives. Today, soybeans and corn are the most prominent crops on the landscape.

In 1914, the Bank of Marion was established. The same year, the organization constructed a new bank building in Marion. The simple building was typical of bank buildings constructed in small towns during this era. The establishment served the other merchants and farmers in the town. It is a good example of classically inspired bank architecture, and is part of the Marion Historic District.

By the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century, Marion suffered a period of decline. References generally point to the growth and prominence of Crisfield and Princess Anne as reasons for Marion's cessation of growth. Today, Marion has a high level of unemployment. Many residents commute to jobs in Salisbury.

#### Architectural Resources in Marion

The earliest residences in Marion date from the middle of the nineteenth century. The houses are primarily modest, typical vernacular farmhouses, often two stories in height with narrow facades. All of the earliest houses have been abandoned and many are in danger of collapse.

Vernacular farmhouses continued to be built in Marion into the first quarter of the twentieth century. I-houses were commonly constructed in the early years of the twentieth century. Many have steeply pitched cross gables superimposed onto the traditional I-house form. Farmhouses of this form are common throughout Maryland. Another prevalent form is a two-story folk Victorian form with a projecting, two-story, three-bay form extending from the façade. This form is commonly seen throughout the Chesapeake Bay area, most notably in Talbot and Somerset Counties. In some cases, the families have moved from the original farmhouses into trailer homes located directly next to the older home. Those that continue to function as residences have been substantially altered.

The majority of buildings more than 50 year of age in Marion date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Houses on smaller lots were the residences of those involved with the commercial activities of the town, such as banking. The houses located further from the center of town are generally larger farmhouses. The larger agricultural plots of land that contain these farmhouses generally lack agricultural buildings or outbuildings associated with agricultural practices. In a few cases, farmsteads contain poultry houses of recent construction dates.

Residences on a small segment of Charles Cannon Road are vernacular interpretations of styles and forms more commonly associated with streetcar suburbs of the early twentieth centuries. Some of these include Folk Victorian residences and American Foursquares. These are all on small parcels of land.

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The residences which date from the 1930s and 40s are primarily modest cottages, most with enclosed porches. Trailers were placed throughout residential parcels in Marion during the 1960s and 70s. Today, small ranch houses constructed from the 1980s through the present day are prevalent and comprise much of the residential building stock in the vicinity. Other new residences are larger vacation homes along the Big Annessex River.

Six churches are in the vicinity of Marion. Four are modest frame chapels in the more agrarian portions of the APE. One is a larger brick Gothic Revival church. The Marion Baptist Church is the largest, and at one time perhaps the most impressive building in the town. It is a large brick building with characteristics of the Colonial Revival style, including an impressive portico. All are typical examples of sacred architecture found in the Mid-Atlantic.

The commercial architecture of Marion is typical of what is found in small communities throughout Maryland. There are two, small bank buildings and several small shops. The majority of the buildings have been altered, and approximately 35 percent are vacant and abandoned. Two rail-related buildings are in Marion, a freight station and a passenger station. Both buildings have been altered for use as retail space.

#### Determination of Eligibility

The property was evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Register:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The Austin Whittington House is a typical example of a vernacular farmhouse in Marion. The projecting three-bay extension on the façade is commonly seen on vernacular examples of Victorian-era architecture on the Eastern Shore. The building's integrity has been severely compromised by the installation of incompatible replacement windows and a new main door. The house has also been clad in aluminum siding.

The Austin Whittington House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is not associated with significant events that contributed to the history of Marion and is not eligible under Criterion A. Austin Whittington, the original owner of the property, does not appear to be a significant person in the history of Marion; therefore the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The house is a typical example of a vernacular residence constructed in the early twentieth century. The property has suffered a loss of integrity of materials and design. Consequently, it is not eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Bibliography**

Maryland's Historic Somerset. Princess Anne, Maryland: Board of Education, 1969.

Maryland Historical Trust. Maryland Inventory of Historic Property Forms and National Register of Historic Places Forms for Marion and surrounding areas of southern Maryland.

Touart, Paul Baker. Somerset; An Architectural History. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust and Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc., 1990.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

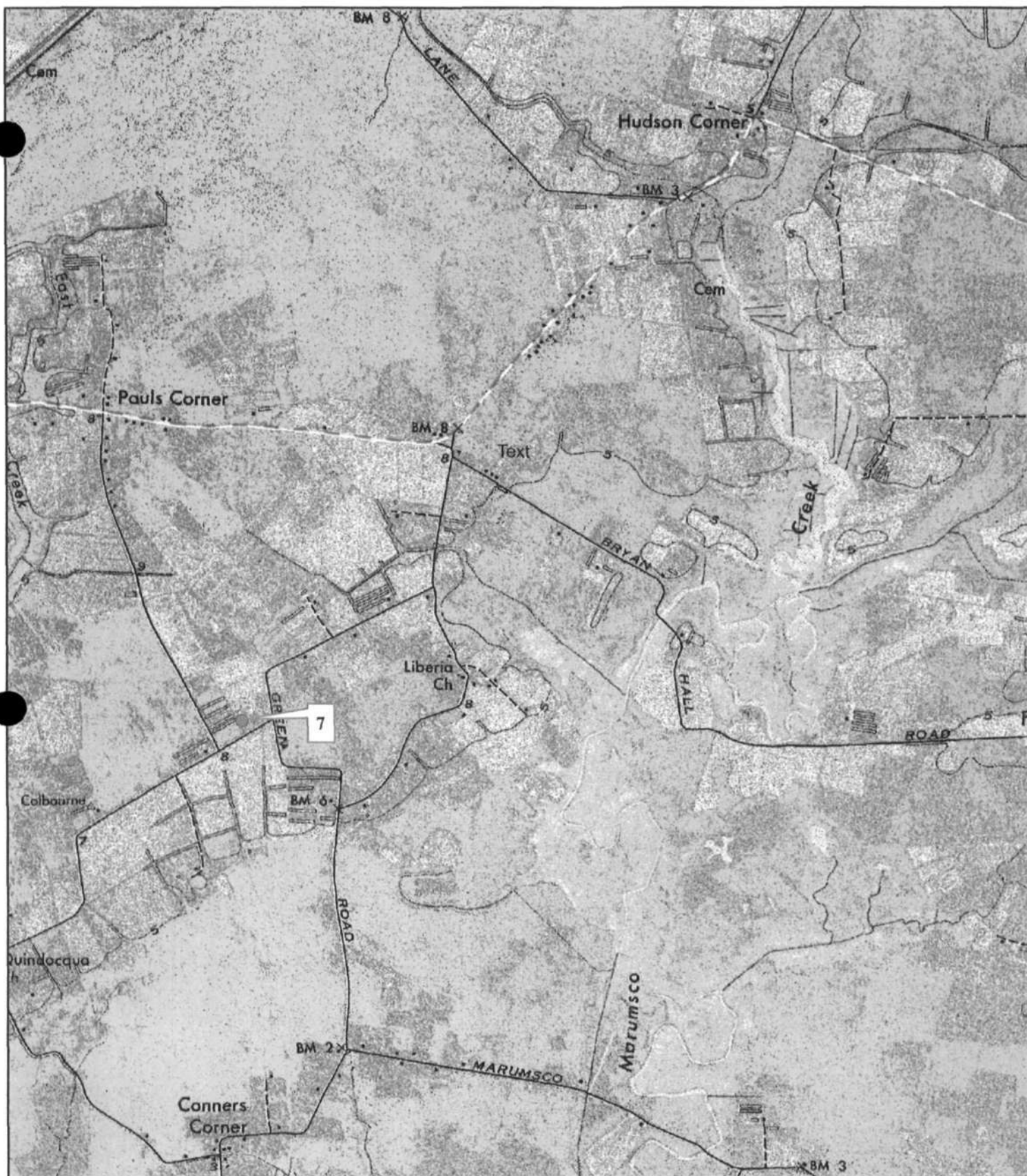
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





Austin Whittington House (S-295)  
Whittington Road between Landon Store and Green Roads

USGS Quadrangle, Kingston  
Marion, Somerset County, Maryland

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1  
Miles



MIHP # S-295

Austin Whittington House

Somerset County, MD

Stephanie Foell

August 2004

MD SHPO

Facade (south elevation), taken from north side of  
Powell Rd. (between Landon Stone and Green Rds.)

1/1



S-295

1911

Austin Whittington House  
Tulls Corner Vicinity  
private

The Austin Whittington house is not an unusual house type for rural Somerset County. These large, two-story hip roofed dwellings with multiple gables covering bay windows are found throughout the countryside. Supported by a raised brick foundation, the squarish aluminum sheathed house is capped by a slate roof.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-295

Magi No. 2002955735

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Austin Whittington House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number N side of Powell Road (or Whittington Road) ☐ not for publicationcity, town Tulls Corner ☒ vicinity of congressional district Firststate Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Paul Whittingtonstreet & number Rt. 1, Box 53 telephone no.:city, town Marion state and zip code Md. 21838

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liberstreet & number Somerset County Courthouse foliocity, town Princess Anne, state Md. 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-295

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Austin Whittington house stands on the north side of Whittington Road immediately west of Landon Store Road near Tulls Corner, Somerset County, Maryland. The large, squarish frame house faces south with the hip roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1911, the two-story irregular plan frame house is supported by a common bond foundation and is sheathed with a uniform layer of aluminum siding. The steeply pitched hip roof and the multiple gables which extend from it are covered in slate. Narrow brick chimneys rise from the center section and have corbelled caps.

The south (principal) facade is an uneven elevation with the first floor covered by a wraparound porch. Pairs of Tuscan columns on brick plinths support the hip roof. Centered in the middle is a gable-front that marks the entrance bay. The glazed front door is flanked by louvered aluminum shutters while the adjacent bays are filled with single-pane sash windows. The second floor, on the other hand, has a three-sided bay window in the right bay above the entrance and is covered by a gable-front roof pierced with a lunette window. The left bay on the second floor has a single-pane sash window.

The west side elevation has an off-center two-story bay covered by the same gable-front roof with a lunette window. The flanking bays are filled with single-pane sash windows, and the cellar is lighted by two-pane lights.

The north elevation is covered on the first floor by an enclosed shed porch which is supported by a raised brick foundation.

The east side elevation is detailed in a similar manner as the west side with a two-story bay window covered by a gable-front roof. The east side porch is enclosed.

The interior has been partially remodeled, but retains a portion of its early twentieth-century woodwork.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. S-295

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1911 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Austin Whittington house is not an unusual house for rural Somerset County. In fact, these large two-story hip roof dwellings with multiple gables covering bay windows is one of the most common house types for early twentieth century farmhouses. In architectural jargon, this form is known as the four-square house with its large squarish proportions quartered into rooms.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-295

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name KingstonQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B 

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

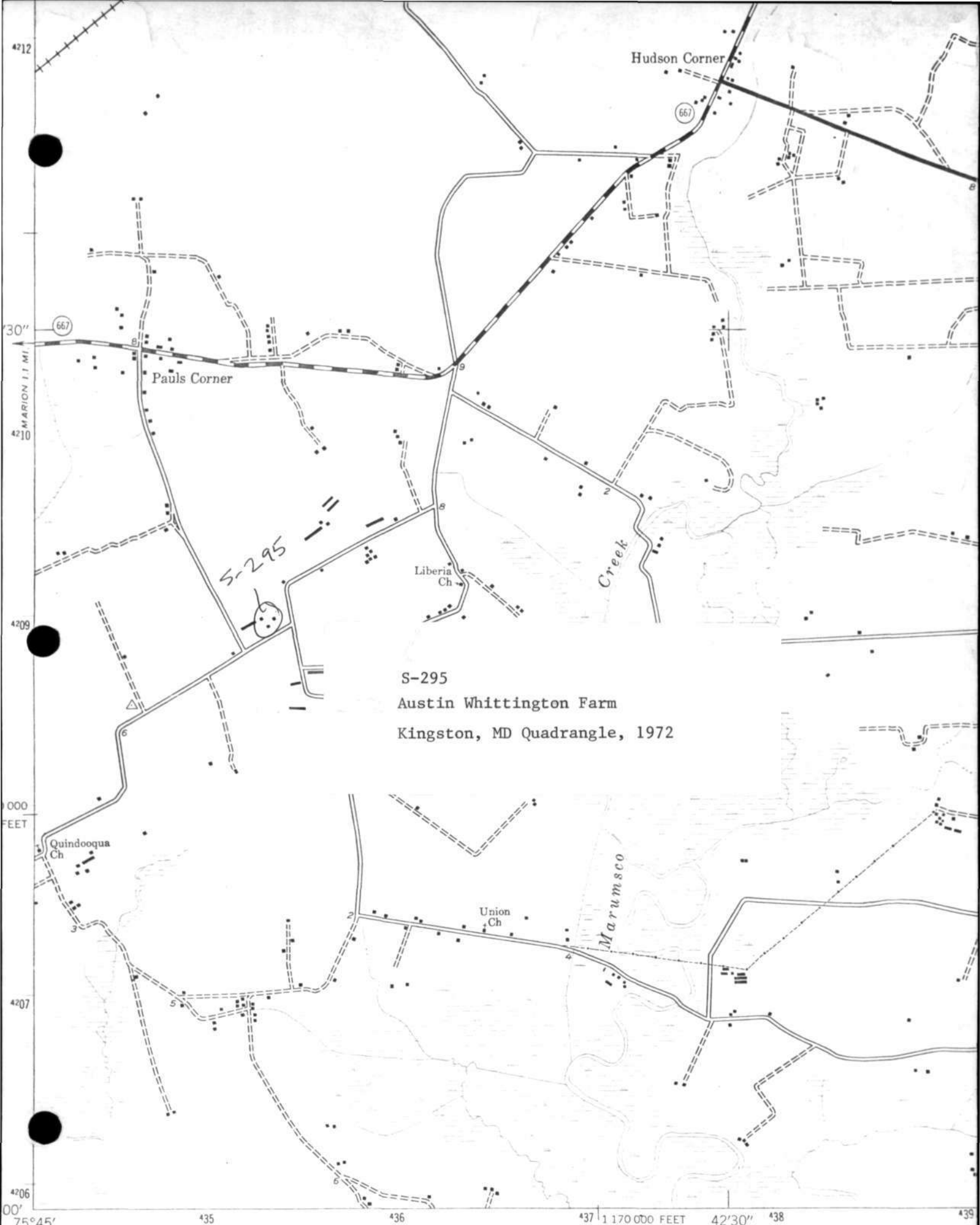
name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historianorganization Somerset County Historical Trustdate 7/31/85street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenuetelephone 651-0077city or town Princess Annestate Md. 21853

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438





S-295  
Austin Whittington Farm  
Kingston, MD Quadrangle, 1972



Austin Whittington House                      S-295  
Tulls Corner vicinity, Somerset county  
South Elevation  
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Austin Whittington House      S-295  
Tulls Corner, Somerset County  
Southwest Elevation  
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust